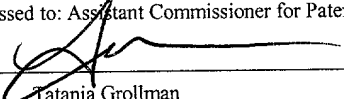


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Tatania Grollman

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Troy J. CHAPMAN

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: ANASTOMOSIS DEVICE AND
METHOD

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The above-referenced application is a divisional under 35 U.S.C. §121 of Application Number 09/037,109. These claims are filed pursuant to a Restriction Requirement issued by the Examiner (Paper No. 4). Prior to examination on the merits, applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered and considered.

TO: T.O. 09/037,109

AMENDMENTS

In the specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, line 2, please add

~~--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS~~

This application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/037,109 filed March 9, 1998, the contents of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

In the claims

Please cancel claims 24-30.

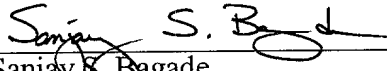
REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to provide reference to a related co-pending U.S. patent application.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 353532000610. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 19, 2001

By: 
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